

October 10, 1958

Dr. Charles R. Shaw  
2128 Geddes Avenue  
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Dear Hez:

I very much appreciate the thought and effort that went into your recent communication. They will be quite helpful in setting up my own perspectives on the problem we will face out at Stanford. I am rather afraid that the question of the chair in psychiatry will have to be settled before any further steps can be taken but I will certainly keep my ear to the ground for this. We would love to see you if there is any chance that you might be coming this way. I do have to make one more trip East this fall but I have so many stopovers already planned that I would probably be too worn out to add to the list. However you never know when you might get a telephone call from me at the Willow Run Airport. Although the flying weather is not the best at that time I think sometime around Thanksgiving or thereafter would be the most convenient. We are planning to move as of the 1st of February and I have to make another hop out there before then in January.

I am trying to think where else I've heard of using the red blood cell as the theme for a course of lectures. Perhaps this was a reflection of exactly your own program.

We are just about to get together to organize the medical student's curriculum. They have a basic medical scientist program which tries to tie together the offerings that would otherwise be in separate departments although fortunately I don't think Stanford will go to quite the extremes that Western Reserve has been doing. I think our theme is going to center very much on biochemical genetics and basic principles with very close connections with Kornberg's course. I imagine it will be something between twenty and thirty lectures altogether that have at least something to do with genetics. When we get organized we will certainly be bound to have some material specifically on human genetics, the analysis of pedigrees, and so forth, although the physiological bases for this are already planned for. Actually the acting head of the pediatrics, Ruth Gross, is seriously interested in genetics and is thinking of taking a year off for an indoctrinational fellowship somewhere. If this gives her the necessary savoir faire, and with our backing, this may be one way of beginning to round out our program. It is still too early to know how the final organization will shape up and this question of having to suspend final conclusions until the department heads are fixed is a troublesome and a time-consuming one. So for the immediate present I have been concentrating on our staff problems in the basic research program in the Genetics Department, leaving for later these connected activities. It may well be as much as another year before

*we really get down to business.*

